



JENNIFER M. GRANHOLM
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
LANSING

DON KOIVISTO
DIRECTOR

January 2, 2009

Dear privately owned cervid producer:

It has become increasingly difficult for the Michigan Department of Agriculture (MDA) to regulate the animal health component of your industry in conjunction with the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR).

In order to streamline state government, MDA is exploring a proposal to transfer all oversight (including animal health) of Michigan's cervid industry to the DNR.

We are seeking input and feedback from the industry on this proposal. Enclosed is a comment form for you to share either your support of this change, or write an explanation of what your concerns may be. The comment period closes on February 13, 2009.

We will compile the comments and provide a complete report to MDA Director Don Koivisto. Director Koivisto will report the department's recommendations on this issue to the Michigan Agriculture Commission during their regularly scheduled April meeting.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Steven L. Halstead".

Steven Halstead, DVM

Enclosure